

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **2014 GCWW Water Quality Report is Now Available** *GCWW continues to provide the cleanest, highest-quality water to its customers*

Cincinnati, OH – Greater Cincinnati Water Works (GCWW) uses the most advanced treatment technologies in the world to provide its customers with the cleanest, highest-quality water.

GCWW recently published its annual Water Quality Report, which provides customers with information about compliance with U.S. EPA and Ohio EPA drinking water standards and drinking water quality, as well as local sources of drinking water, how the water is treated, and how it is protected from spills.

The report shows that drinking water from GCWW complied with or went beyond compliance with all federal and state health standards in 2014.

To learn more, please read the 2014 Water Quality Report, which is available online at [www.cincinnati-oh.gov/waterqualityreport](http://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/waterqualityreport). Paper copies are available upon request by calling (513) 591-7700. GCWW is no longer automatically mailing annual water quality reports as inserts in water bills.

“Water produced by GCWW is renowned for being safe, plentiful and high quality,” said Tony Parrott, Executive Director of GCWW and the Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati (MSD). “Our water complies with or goes beyond compliance with U.S. and Ohio EPA health standards every year because we invest in the most advanced water treatment technologies.”

GCWW draws its source water from the Ohio River and the Great Miami Buried Valley Aquifer.

Water from the Ohio River is treated at the Richard Miller Treatment Plant on the east side of Cincinnati and supplies about 88% of GCWW customers. The Bolton Treatment Plant in Fairfield draws groundwater from 13 groundwater wells in the Great Miami Aquifer and supplies about 12% of GCWW customers.

GCWW treats about 122 million gallons of water a day on average and conducts about 600 tests daily throughout the water treatment and distribution process. GCWW uses the most advanced water treatment technologies including:

- Sand and Gravel Filtration (Miller and Bolton Plant)
- Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) adsorption (Miller Plant)
- Ultraviolet (UV) disinfection (Miller Plant)

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GCWW is the largest water utility in North America to use UV disinfection following sand filtration and GAC adsorption.

“Our UV treatment facility is the most recent addition to our suite of advanced treatment technologies – it was installed in 2013,” said Parrott. “UV is effective against microorganisms that are resistant to chlorine such as *Cryptosporidium* and *Giardia*. It doesn’t use any chemicals or create any byproducts.”

GCWW is also fully equipped to handle spills that could potentially impact drinking water. In 2014, several major spills occurred in the Ohio River or its tributaries, including a chemical spill that contaminated the drinking water supply for Charleston, WV. GCWW drinking water was unaffected by these threats because of its ability to shut down water intakes and rely on stored and supplementary sources of water until the spill had passed. GCWW also can use its GAC treatment technology to remove spill contaminants from the water. GAC has been recognized as the best available technology for removing the most common chemicals found in spills in the Ohio River.

GCWW’s 2014 Water Quality Report was prepared to comply with the U.S. EPA’s National Primary Drinking Water Regulation for Consumer Confidence Reports.

GCWW provides drinking water to about 1.1 million people in most of Hamilton County, Ohio, parts of Butler, Warren and Clermont counties in Ohio and Boone County in Northern Kentucky.

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